

**SITUATION REPORT NO. 45**  
**INCIDENT NO. 97-015**  
**DATE: May 30, 1997      TIME: 11:00 A.M.**

TO: Governor Edward T. Schafer  
State Capitol  
Bismarck, ND 58505

1. NATURE OF DISASTER: Spring flood statewide.
2. DEATHS AND INJURIES: A 22-year-old Minneapolis man was killed during a single-car accident that occurred May 22 near Hampden. The victim's car was found submerged in a slough alongside a flooded county line road, which had been closed to traffic. To date, the State Emergency Operations Center (EOC) has received reports of eight deaths attributed to disaster conditions.
3. DAMAGES: The Red River of the North has dropped below flood stage at all North Dakota gauging points. Meanwhile, Devils Lake continues to rise, reaching 1,441.93 feet MSL on May 30. N.D. Highways 20 and 57 remain closed to traffic.

In Pembina County, officials have reported 128 damaged road sites in 10 townships.

4. RESOURCES:

LOCAL: No change from previous reports.

STATE: No change from previous reports.

FEDERAL: No change from previous reports.

5. VOLUNTEER ACTION: North Dakota farmers and ranchers will be receiving assistance from Iowans interested in volunteering with disaster cleanup, debris removal, fencing, field work and repair of damaged buildings. Individuals and groups from the state of Iowa have contacted the Agriculture Disaster Response Center (ADRC) offering assistance. The ADRC will match the volunteers with North Dakotans. Farmers and ranchers in need of assistance should call the ADRC at (888) 337-8632, 8:00 a.m. until 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Members of the N.D. Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) will discuss response plans to Devils Lake flooding during their summer quarterly meeting set for 11:00 a.m. June 3 at the Ramsey National Bank in Devils Lake. VOAD members will also review their spring flood activities.

The Salvation Army provided 300 meals to displaced persons staying at University of North Dakota (UND) dormitories.

6. MAJOR ACTIONS: A citywide debris removal effort has been underway in Grand Forks, where contractors hired by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) had hauled 34,100 tons of household debris and 92,225 tons of levee material by May 28. Contractors, operating 119 dump trucks, are ahead of schedule, having completed 75 percent of their first pass through the city. Two more passes will be conducted. Grand Forks officials expect debris removal efforts to be completed by July 15.

Two Grand Forks locations for fully-winterized manufactured homes have been selected for flood victims in need of long-term temporary housing. One site, the vacant Industrial Park west of I-29, will initially accommodate up to 150 homes. The other site, Princeton Park on UND's campus, will be used for up to 60 homes. Architectural and engineering plans for the Industrial Park should be completed by June 5, and a contract for construction should be awarded by June 8. Plans for Princeton Park are scheduled for completion on June 2, and a bid opening is set for June 6. Manufactured homes measuring 60 feet long and 12 feet wide will be placed on these sites. These homes, which can accommodate six people, have three bedrooms, a bathroom and a kitchen.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Disaster Housing Program has placed 425 displaced persons temporarily at UND dormitories and nearly 100 people in travel trailers. Mass care workers are operating four shelters for 281 flood victims. To date, 8,130 people had been housed in 22 shelters in eight counties. Flood victims also stayed at private homes in 38 counties.

The Grand Forks County EOC has been relocated to Room 219 on the second floor of the Grand Forks Police Building.

N.D. Department of Transportation (N.D. DOT) crews in the northern Red River Valley are inspecting flooded bridges that span the Red River. In addition, crews are also cleaning two facilities that flooded, the Grand Forks District Office and the Alexander Henry rest area on I-29 north of Grand Forks. The District Office's administrative staff has been temporarily relocated to UND, construction crews to Thompson and maintenance crews to Larimore. Meanwhile, staff at the Devils Lake District Office will soon let bids for elevating inundated segments of N.D. Highways 19, 20 and 57.

More than 5,755 farmers, farm workers and self-employed persons have filed Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) applications. Of those applications, Job Service North Dakota has processed 73 percent and paid \$1,393,457 in benefits. Job Service received

14,977 applications for state job insurance benefits during April 21 to May 23 compared to 1,823 during the same time period last year. Job Service has paid \$1.24 million in these benefits to date.

Nearly 90 people are assisting with cleanup and recovery work in Grand Forks through a \$1 million Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) Title III grant. The employees are staffing a day care operation, cleanup efforts and a clearing house for contractors.

Eight Air Guard and 70 Army Guard members are presently on state active duty in support of "Operation Good Neighbor," the N.D. National Guard's flood response and recovery effort. They are working at donation warehouses, processing identification badges, and repairing National Guard vehicles used during the flood fight. To date, 1,866 members have volunteered for state active duty for more than 20,300 personnel days.

As of May 29, the State/Federal Disaster Field Office (DFO) has received 310 Notice of Interest applications for participation in the FEMA Public Assistance Program. Applicants include: 48 counties; 160 cities; 13 electrical cooperatives; four tribal governments; 19 state agencies; 12 park districts; 15 water districts; five universities, 25 public school districts; four municipal airports; one fire department; one public service agency; and three private nonprofit organizations. The Public Assistance staff continues to work with 42 private nonprofit organizations to determine their eligibility.

The Public Assistance Program to date has written Damage Survey Reports (DSRs) that have totaled more than \$11 million damages sustained by local governments and private nonprofit organizations that provide essential governmental services. To date, the DFO processing center has received 493 DSRs. Of those, 390 DSRs have been obligated, and DSRs have been completed for 56 applicants.

Sixty Public Assistance field inspectors are assigned to work at six satellite offices throughout the state. Satellite offices and county assignments are as follows: Bismarck Satellite Office -- Burleigh, Morton, Grant, Logan, McIntosh, Kidder and Hettinger Counties and State agencies; Devils Lake -- Nelson, Ramsey, Benson, Towner, Eddy and Cavalier Counties; Fargo Satellite Office -- Cass, Richland and Ransom Counties; the Grand Forks Satellite Office -- Traill, Grand Forks, Walsh and Pembina Counties; Jamestown Satellite Office -- Stutsman, Foster, LaMoure, Dickey, Griggs and Barnes Counties; and Minot Satellite Office -- McHenry, Wells, Pierce, Sheridan, McLean and Rolette Counties.

Nearly 33,300 North Dakotans have reported personal property damages to the National Teleregistration Center (NTC). Of those applicants, 20,846 had received \$35,604,280 in Disaster Housing assistance. The state Individual and Family Grant program has received 16,461 applications. The program staff has approved 1,208 applications for \$1,339,903 in grants. The Small Business Administration (SBA) has received 7,093 loan applications. Of these, 2,508 have been approved for a total of \$49,490,500 in loans.

State and federal disaster officials are asking North Dakotans to help with efforts to ensure seniors and people with disabilities who were affected by the disaster have registered with the NTC. The toll-free number is (800) 462-9029. The application period ends June 6.

7. ASSISTANCE NEEDED: No change from previous reports.
8. OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: No change from previous reports.
9. OTHER: Other web site addresses for flood recovery information include:

N.D. Division of Emergency Management: <http://www.state.nd.us/dem>

N.D. League of Cities: <http://www.ndlc.org>

N.D. State Water Commission: <http://water.swc.state.nd.us>

N.D. Department of Agriculture: <http://www.state.nd.us/agr/>

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: <http://www.ncs-wc.usace.army.mil>

U.S. Geological Survey: <http://srv1dndbmk.cr.usgs.gov/public/>

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Douglas C. Friez, State Director